

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A base member for a ferrule-type optical connector, said base member having:
 - a first hollow bore extending from a first end toward a second end; and
 - a recess coaxially aligned with said first hollow bore, said recess having a first internal perimeter, and a second internal perimeter, wherein said first perimeter is smaller than said second perimeter.
2. The base member of claim 1, wherein a post extends from a bottom of said recess.
3. The base member of claim 2, wherein said first hollow bore passes through said post and terminates at an end of said post.
4. The base member of claim 1, wherein a post extends from a bottom of said recess, said post having an end that terminates substantially in alignment with at least a portion of a termination region.
5. The base member of claim 1, wherein a termination region is disposed between said first internal perimeter and said second internal perimeter.

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6. The base member of claim 1, wherein said recess receives a ferrule in friction-fit engagement.

7. The base member of claim 1, wherein said first internal perimeter is sized to friction-fit a ferrule.

8. The base member of claim 1, wherein said second internal perimeter is sized to form a gap between a ferrule disposed in said recess and said second internal perimeter, said gap reducing frictional contact between the base member and the ferrule.

9. The base member of claim 1, wherein said receives a ferrule selected from the group consisting of a LC, ST, SC, or FC connector.

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10. An optical connector adapted to receive a ferrule member therein, the ferrule member having a first hollow bore formed therein, a side surface and an end with a mating surface, said optical connector comprising:

a base member having an alignment recess, said alignment recess comprising:

a bottom wall,

a post member extending up from said bottom wall to a first height, a second bore extending through said post member, and

a sidewall having a first portion extending from said bottom wall to a second height that is lesser or equal to said first height, said first portion having a first perimeter, and a second portion extending from said sidewall first portion to a top of said alignment recess, said second portion having a second perimeter larger than said first perimeter.

11. The optical connector of claim 10, wherein said post member extends from said bottom wall of said alignment recess, said post member having an end that terminates substantially in alignment with at least a portion of a termination region disposed between said first portion and said second portion.

12. The optical connector of claim 11, wherein said first portion and said second portion have a stepped configuration.

13. The optical connector of claim 11, wherein said termination region creates a gradual change in a diameter of said alignment recess.

14. The optical connector of claim 10, wherein said recess receives the ferrule in friction-fit engagement with said first portion.

15. The optical connector of claim 14, wherein a gap forms between said second portion and the ferrule.

16. The optical connector of claim 14, wherein the ferrule is selected from the group consisting of a LC, ST, SC, or FC connector.

17. The optical connector of claim 14, wherein a lateral force of the interference fit between said first portion and the ferrule exceeds any lateral force exerted between said second portion and the ferrule.

18. The optical connector of claim 17, wherein said second portion is dimensioned to not contact the ferrule when said interference fit is formed.

19. The optical connector of claim 14, wherein said post member inserts into the first bore when said interference fit is formed between the ferrule and said alignment recess in order to align the first bore and said second bore.

20. The optical connector of claim 19, wherein said alignment recess is generally circular in shape.